

## EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS HONOLULU

## 2005 CHANUKAH MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR LINGLE AND LT. GOVERNOR AIONA

Happy Chanukah to all those of the Jewish faith who are celebrating the Festival of Lights.

Chanukah is the time of year when we remember events of over 2,000 years ago when the Jewish people led a revolt against their Syrian oppressors who controlled Israel. Led by Judah Maccabee, the Jewish followers defeated the Greek army and reclaimed the Temple in Jerusalem. When they cleaned and rededicated it, there was only one day of holy oil left for the sacred lamp. The lamp, which should only have burned for one day, lasted for eight. Chanukah, which means dedication, is the celebration of this miracle.

Beginning at sundown on December 25, Jews from around the world will honor this miracle by lighting one candle of the eight-branched menorah, and continue to do so for eight nights as a symbol of hope. As each candle is lit, Jewish people thank God for his many blessings and enlightenment.

As Hawai`i's Jewish community prepares for Chanukah, let us keep our `ohana, near and far, in our hearts and prayers. We have much to be thankful for, especially for the return of our National Guard troops who will all be returning home by mid-January.

Best wishes for a joyous, peaceful and Happy Chanukah!

LINDA LINGLE

Governor

JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.

Lt. Governor